

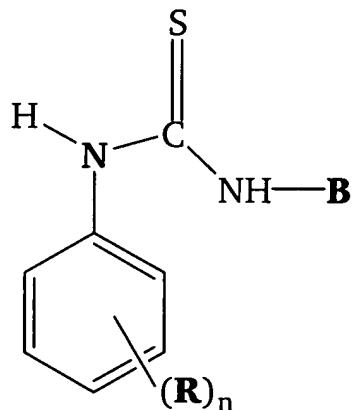
Applicant: Paul K. Smith
Appl'n. No.: 10/741,496
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Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 11, 16-17, 21 and 25-27 without disclaimer or prejudice to applicant's right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a future divisional or continuation application. Please amend Claims 9, 10, 22, 23 and 24, and add new Claims 28 and 29 as set forth below.

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A The compound represented by the formula



where **B** is an reacted amino group-containing biomolecule;

R is $-\text{NHC(O)-O-}\mathbf{M}$;

where $n=1$ or 2 ;

M is a polyethylene glycol or a polysaccharide; reacted alcohol-containing macromolecule; and

$-\mathbf{R}$ is para, meta or di-meta relative to $-\text{NHC(S)-NH-B}$.

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10. (Currently amended) The compound according to Claim 9, 21 where **M** is methoxy polyethylene glycol.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously presented) The compound according to Claim 9 wherein said biomolecule **B** is streptavidin.

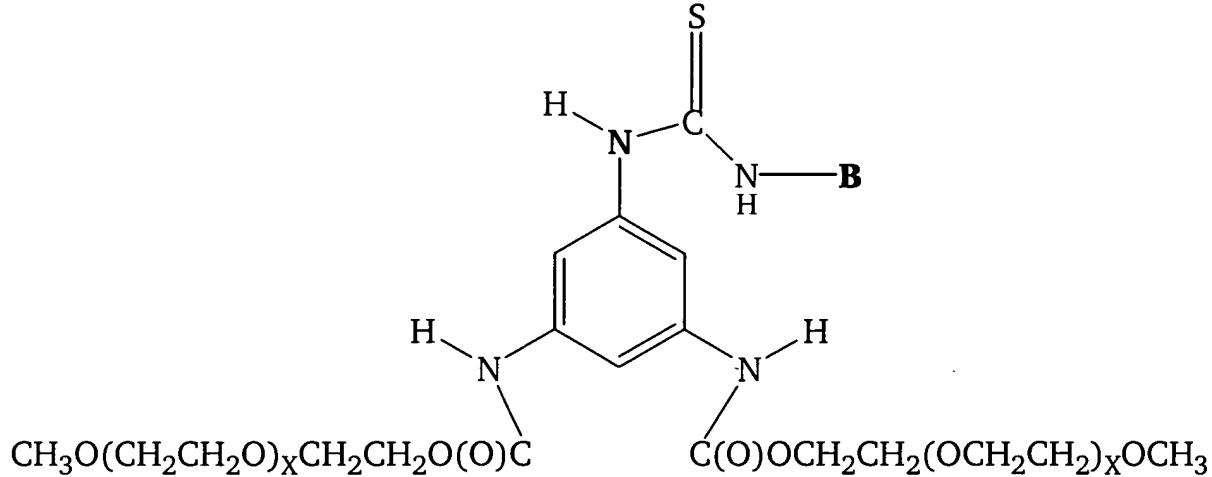
13-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) The compound according to Claim 9, 21 wherein the polysaccharide is dextran, cellulose, starch or agarose.

23. (Currently amended) The compound according to Claim 10, wherein the reacted methoxy polyethylene glycol is $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2-(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2)_x-\text{O-CH}_3$ and x is an average value that is about 5 to about 500.

24. (Currently amended) ~~The compound according to Claim 23~~
A compound represented by the formula

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wherein said compound is represented by the formula above and x is an average value that is about 5 to about 500 and wherein **B** is an amino group-containing biomolecule.

25-27. (Canceled)

28. (New) The compound of Claim 9, wherein **B** is a protein or a polypeptide.

29. (New) The compound of Claim 24, wherein **B** is a protein or a polypeptide.